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ROWING UP IN THE WORLD TODAY

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Growing Up in the World Today

by

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MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL HYGIENE
1145 Little Building, Boston, Mass.

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FOREWORD

This Society has realized for a long time the need of a pamphlet on Sex Hygiene which would help adolescents of the present day to solve the problems confronting them. To secure a suitable manuscript for this purpose an open competition was held by the Society from June to October, 1931.

Thirty-five manuscripts were submitted. The prize-winning pamphlet, "Growing Up in the World Today," was selected by a board of five judges eminent in the fields of Education, Medicine, Psychiatry and Social Work.

It is earnestly hoped that this pamphlet will assist parents, teachers, vocational counselors, the clergy and the young people themselves to reach sound and practical solutions of the many perplexing problems to be met in these times.

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Revised Edition

MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL HYGIENE, INC.
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Growing Up in the World Today

This is a time of many changes and perplexities in the world of human affairs, not only in the political and economic spheres, but in the realm of personal choice and conduct. For those of you who are growing up in the midst of the present turmoil this is perhaps more urgently true than for older people whose way of life is more or less established. The wise man, the good citizen, is he who sees facts clearly, and acts for his own good and that of others, adapting himself if need be to shifting conditions. Change is continuous, in yourselves and in the society of which you are a part. The first step toward being a useful human being is learning to understand and control your changing selves. A problem that occurs frequently—and when it does it is of great importance —is that of sex. To meet this problem successfully is truly to "grow up." It leads to one's own happiness and to the happiness of others. The business of this little book is to put before you some of the facts it is essential you should know if you are to understand and control your sex life.

Physical Changes

In order to do this, one needs first to understand just what is taking place within himself. The most obvious changes which a growing boy or girl notices are physical. There is usually a sudden increase in height. The boy often feels that he is all hands and feet. His voice changes and perhaps embarrasses him by breaking at times. But he is proud of his increased strength and muscular development. The girl develops in a different way, her breasts become rounder and her whole body more graceful and curved. In both sexes a growth of hair in the armpits and on the lower abdomen is noticeable. The boy's beard also begins to grow and he will start shaving.

All these outward changes result from increased activity of certain glands, and these glands effect changes, too, in the sex organs of the adolescent boy or girl. It is curious that as children we learn the names of all other parts of the body and yet are very seldom taught the correct names of these important organs. Since it is difficult to speak of something without an intelligible name by which to call it, a brief outline of the sex mechanisms may be useful.

The principal male genital organs are external and are attached to the lower extremity of the abdomen. At the center is the penis, a cylindrical organ normally about three inches long. It may be less than this when the body is chilled or considerably enlarged in moments of sexual excitement. Through the penis the waste water of the body, the urine, is discharged. Beneath the penis is a sac-like structure called the scrotum which contains the two testicles. These glands manufacture very important secretions, some of which are absorbed internally, resulting in the above-mentioned changes of growth, voice, and muscular development. Others pass out of the body just as the urine does through the penis. These external secretions of the glands are known as the seminal fluid or semen. From the time that a boy is fourteen or fifteen, his glands will occasionally expel any surplus semen that collects. This discharge usually takes place during sleep, is often accompanied by a dream about some sex experience, and is known as an emission or ejaculation. It may occur at various intervals; it is entirely normal, a sign of healthy development of the body, and one which should occasion no worry.

The female organs are, like those of the male, located in the lower abdominal region of the body. However, unlike the male organs, they are almost entirely internal.

The principal organs are the ovaries and the uterus. There are two ovaries, one on either side of the uterus. They are small structures, each about the size and shape of a lima bean,

and contain the ova or egg cells. Two tiny tubes, each about four inches long, connect the ovaries with the uterus. The uterus (also called the womb) resembles a small pear, stem-end down. It has a cavity in its center which connects with the vagina. This latter is simply a passageway to the outside. Its outer opening is usually more or less completely closed until after mating by a thin membrane called the hymen. On the exterior of the body, enclosing the opening of the vagina, are two small and two larger folds, known as the labia, which help protect the delicate internal organs.

The ovaries of the female correspond to the testicles of the male in that they manufacture important secretions, without which no girl could develop into womanhood. These secretions pass directly into the blood and are carried to various parts of the body. They also play a part in controlling the external discharge known as menstruation.

So many girls are puzzled about the cause of the menstrual flow that it would seem worth while to outline what, doctors believe, really happens. At the time of birth there are approximately 30,000 to 40,000 egg cells in each ovary. These remain quiescent until, at the time of puberty when the girl becomes twelve or thirteen, one of these cells ripens, is detached, and passes down into the uterus. If the egg had been fertilized on its way through the tube, it would rest in the uterus and begin its development into a new human being. In preparation for this function of adult womanhood, the lining of the uterus has grown thicker and is prepared to receive an embryo. Unfertilized, the ovum or egg cell passes on through the uterus and out of the vagina. As the thickened lining of the walls of the uterus is not needed, it also passes out and a new lining is gradually developed. The time required for the next ovum to ripen and be discharged is usually about twenty-eight days; the menstrual flow will probably, therefore, occur once every four weeks. This flow may last from three to six days, normally occasioning

little or no discomfort. Any girl who is seriously upset during menstruation should find out from a physician what causes the trouble. As anything which checks or increases the flow of blood is harmful, chills of any sort, cold baths, violent exercises, and excitement are to be avoided. Boys as well as girls should understand the nature of menstruation, for unintentionally boys may otherwise make thoughtless demands upon their girl comrades at times when the latter need rest.

The above are the principal physical changes which you will notice as you pass through the teens. Nature is trying to build for you a strong and attractive body. What is the care which you owe to yourself in order that your body may be given every opportunity to develop fully? Simply a faithful observance of the rules of hygiene which you have been learning ever since childhood. The five essentials are (1) plenty of nourishing food; (2) at least eight hours of sound sleep each night, with an abundance of fresh air in the bedroom; (3) active outdoor exercise, to train and develop the growing muscles; (4) clothing which does not bind in any way, light but warm enough to protect the body; and (5) scrupulous cleanliness, at all times, of all parts of the body. Girls used to be told not to bathe during the menstrual period, but now most physicians are convinced that a warm (not hot) bath or shower is relaxing and beneficial.

These are simple rules, but to carry them out faithfully requires, nevertheless, a certain amount of will power. If you care enough about the development of a sound, efficient body to follow them, however, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are doing your part in this business of growing up physically. No one else can do it for you. This is an important decision you must make: how much of a chance for health you will give your body.

Psychological Changes

Up to this point only the physical development of the adolescent boy or girl has been considered. Accompanying this development, however, are mental and emotional changes perhaps even more significant and interesting. Often young people in their early teens become moody and restless. They may feel misunderstood, or worried and anxious without knowing why. Do not take yourself too seriously if you find any of these symptoms troubling you. The outer world is the same as it has always been, but you are developing a new relationship toward it. Instead of being cared for by society as a child is, you are perhaps unconsciously seeking to become a member of the adult world. Probably you acquire a new sort of self-consciousness in the process, through trying to see yourself as you must appear to others. You set new standards for yourself, as you picture in imagination the sort of person you would like to be.

These new feelings about yourself and your own personality will be accompanied by an increasing interest in your relationships with other people. Intimate friendships with members of your own sex will grow stronger, and at the same time you will find yourself reacting in new ways toward members of the other sex. Different people respond in different ways to this increasing sex-awareness. Some boys and girls, especially in the early teens, become abnormally shy. This stage should pass, however, and be replaced by the normal development of interest and pleasure in the society of one another. Boys and girls who have played together as children are less likely to meet difficulties in the transition to a more grown-up kind of comradeship.

The period of the early teens is the period for group activities of all kinds. The boys and girls who can organize clubs, parties, and outings where all meet together for fun and comradeship, without undue pairing off, are making a

wise use of their growing social impulses. For some young people, this sort of wholesome companionship will furnish all the emotional outlet necessary, and they will pass their teens without any particular difficulties. In others, however, the physical desires of sex will develop earlier and more strongly. It will be helpful, in facing the problems which result, to understand just what lies back of these desires.

The reproductive instinct is one of the most essential and healthy elements of life. Just as the desire for food leads to the preservation of individual life, so the desire for sex companionship results in the preservation of the life of the race. The boy or girl who possesses this desire has received, therefore, a tremendous heritage. Rightly to use and control it is to serve not only one's own generation, but perhaps many generations to follow.

To understand why this is true it is necessary to consider the foundations of human life, how life is transmitted from one generation to the next. In your science classes you have studied the development of seeds and know that pollen must reach the egg cell before the seed can grow and that unless the bird's egg is fertilized before it is laid, it will not hatch. In the same way, new human life results only from the union of the egg cell and the sperm. The egg cells, developing in the ovaries of the female, and the sperm, developing in the testicles of the male, are enabled to meet and unite through the act known as sexual intercourse—the insertion of the penis of the male into the vagina of the female. This, the most intimate physical contact possible between two human beings, is the foundation of the marriage relation and expresses in a happy marriage the love of husband and wife.

The act of intercourse, in addition to bringing emotional and physical satisfaction to both the man and the woman, leads to a discharge of sperm cells from the penis into the

vagina. There may be as many as approximately 200,000,000 sperms in a single ejaculation. Though these cells are extraordinarily minute, they have the power of motion and swim in various directions. Some of them will move up through the uterus into the tubes through which the egg cells pass. If, in its passage through the tube to the uterus, the egg cell meets one of the sperm cells, the two fuse and fertilization takes place. If the sperm does not find an egg cell within a few days, it dies.

When sperm and egg are joined, a remarkable process of growth begins. The single cell formed by the union of the two parent cells divides and the two resulting cells divide again. This process continues until, in perhaps two weeks, a tiny mass about one-eighth of an inch in diameter and composed of hundreds of cells has developed from the original cell. It seems difficult to believe that this tiny organism contains, potentially, the qualities of a human being.

Several days after fertilization the little group of cells passes from the tube in which growth started into the uterus and becomes attached to the uterine wall. Here it stays for the remainder of the nine months needed for its growth; it develops all the organs necessary for human life, receiving nourishment, meanwhile, from materials carried in the blood of the mother. Menstruation ceases in the pregnant woman and all her energies are utilized in the healthy development of the tiny baby.

At the end of about nine months the child is ready to begin life in the outside world and, by means of muscular contractions of the uterus, is pushed downward and outward through the vagina. This is a difficult process for the mother, for it necessitates much stretching of the vaginal walls, and is known as labor. Modern medical knowledge has greatly lessened the dangers and difficulties which used to attend the process of childbirth.

Such is nature's method of providing for the continuation of the human race. In order to be sure that fertilization will take place, the sex impulse, the desire for physical union with one of the opposite sex, has been made very strong and the satisfaction of it, through intercourse with its climax or orgasm, pleasant.

If we were simply animals, whenever a craving for union occurred we should be free to satisfy it. Animals have no social obligations beyond reproducing and caring for their young. If we were members of a savage tribe, we should be expected to marry as soon as our physical powers developed and made reproduction possible.

The problems of sex in civilized society arise chiefly from the fact that, in our present way of living, the sex instinct cannot be satisfied whenever it arises. The organization of society is such that approximately ten years elapse between the development of sexual maturity and the economic and social ability to establish a family. Therefore, all young people are forced to meet the problem of what to do with sex impulses arising during this period of preparation. Although the difficulty is much greater in some cases than others, it is safe to assume that in every normal human being sex desire will appear at some time or other during adolescence.

Some of the ways in which this desire finds expression are worth considering. Psychologists, who study the working of the human mind and emotions, tell us that the small child is concerned primarily with his own body and bodily sensations. As he grows older, he develops affection for his immediate family, then for playmates of his own sex, and finally, attains the mature love of man and woman. A similar development may take place in the expression of the sex impulses. The child, in exploring his own body, frequently acquires the habit of handling his sexual organs. This prac-

tice is known as masturbation and is entirely natural for the small child. If older people discover the habit, however, they will take pains to train the child out of it, because if the tendency persists, it is much more difficult to overcome.

If the child is never taught otherwise, he may continue the practice in adolescence; or boys and girls may begin to masturbate at this time, as a result of an increasing awareness of the sex organs. In either case, they are probably troubled about it for they will have heard stories about harm resulting from the habit.

Most of these stories are entirely discredited by the medical profession today. There is, however, a definite objection to masturbation which should be recognized by all thinking young people. The physical satisfaction derived through masturbation is apt to differ from that resulting from normal sex contact and a boy or girl who has developed this type of reaction too far may later find it more difficult to respond normally to the physical intimacy of marriage. Thus to persist in the practice of masturbation might lessen the chances for happiness in married life. Most boys and girls, as they grow up and recognize these facts, will make a sincere effort to outgrow the habit if they have acquired it.

Normally the child outgrows his absorption in himself and turns his affections to his immediate family. A few boys and girls may also experience sexual difficulties in this stage of development. It is normal for the young child to idealize his parents; to him they represent the whole universe. When a boy or girl begins to grow up, however, this attitude gradually changes, until the parents become human beings and comrades rather than divinities. If the childish attitude persists, instead of shifting, what is known as a fixation results. The young man looking for a girl "just like mother" and the girl who will not marry because she loves her father too

well are emotionally immature. Their attitude may be very flattering to the parents, and possibly unthinkingly encouraged by them, but it is neither normal nor desirable for the young people.

In the next phase of emotional growth a much more common type of problem appears. Boys and girls in their early teens have reached the age of close friendships with members of their own sex. Boys enjoy association with other boys in clubs and other group activities; girls have their chums and form their clubs or small groups. Though friendships formed at this age may last for years, the natural course of events is for boys gradually to pass on to an interest in girls and, conversely, for girls to become more and more interested in boys.

When this does not occur and when interest in the opposite sex (called heterosexual interest) is not developed there is again fixation; there is unwholesome or overstrong fondness for a person of the same sex. The result is usually great emotional strain for the friends. They cannot bear to be separated but must be within constant sight of each other. If either friend appears to care for the society of some one else, excessive jealousy results. Their fondness for one another may, in extreme cases, lead to intimate physical contact. Eventually one or the other friend wearies of the strain and breaks away, leaving both with a feeling of disillusionment.

This over-emotional type of friendship is known among young people as a "crush." Sometimes it has many of the aspects of a real love affair; but unfortunately, unlike the latter, it cannot end happily, unless both parties are wise and strong enough to rebuild their friendship on more natural grounds. Girls seem more likely than boys to encounter this sort of difficulty probably because in boys the sex impulse makes itself known more directly. Within certain reasonable limits, a "crush" may do no harm; but when one friendship

becomes so important that all others are neglected, it is time to do something about it. Real friends desire the welfare and the happiness of one another, not exclusive possession.

In some people this "falling in love" with members of the same sex persists into adult life, when it is known as homosexuality and may sometimes be helped by sane medical advice. Normally, by the time a young person reaches the age of seventeen or eighteen, any such tendency has died out and the individual finds his emotional life centering about the opposite sex.

Problems of Control

Any or all of these immature expressions of the sex instinct, which are to be discarded as one grows older, may be absent in the case of any particular boy or girl. Whether or not you have passed through one or more of these stages, you will eventually find yourself caring intensely for comradeship with members of the opposite sex, which may leave you with desires not fully satisfied.

If so, you are face to face with one of the most fundamental of human problems. It is a problem which the race has had to meet ever since the first savage took the first step away from a purely animal level of existence. And today, in the sex-saturated environment in which we live, when even cigarettes and complexion soaps base their advertising on "sex appeal," young people are going to find self-control and wisdom of choice not always easy to attain.

The first necessity, if you are to decide intelligently the problems which face you, is that you cultivate the scientific attitude, that is, that you learn to make decisions on the basis of fact rather than prejudice or desire. This is difficult, for our desires so color our thinking that they may easily mislead us. You should thus go carefully, comparing your

personal convictions with the facts as others see them and as race experience indicates through established conventions.

If you are willing and able to do this, what groups of facts will concern you? We are assuming that you are genuinely desirous of making the most of your whole physical and psychological sex endowment and would be as unwilling to stunt your growth emotionally as physically. If so, you will want to know (1) what are the effects on the individual of indulgence in intercourse before or outside marriage and whether there is harm in restraining sex desire when it has arisen; and (2) what the social effects are of indulgence and of self-control.

In discussing the question as it concerns the individual, we may begin with the physical aspects. There is no evidence that restraint of the sex desire brings any ill effects whatever. Nature, through dreams and seminal emissions, has provided for the boy an efficient physical release for the tensions which arise from time to time. The old plea of "physical necessity" is being more and more exposed as an example of unscientific thinking, a substitution of desire for fact. Neither moderate indulgence on the part of physically mature individuals nor complete abstinence has a harmful effect on the body.

There are two sides to the question of the psychological effects of intercourse outside of marriage. Some people argue that, though self-control is needed in many situations in life, repression of sexual desires is in a different class because such repression may lead to personality conflict. But why are these desires different from other desires which one must control? No one could lead a civilized life without some sort of self-control; it is the way one meets a situation calling for denial, not the denial itself, that may lead to a repression. Grown people are not expected to go off in emotional tantrums whenever their immediate wishes are restrained.

On the other side of the argument, one must consider the psychological effects of indulgence. Our world is so organized that sex relations outside marriage must usually be furtive, concealed, and carried on with a knowledge of social disapproval. The effect of this on the personality is disintegrating. It usually makes one feel guilty. This in itself tends to rob the sex relations of unmarried people of the accompanying joy and trust that should be found in marriage.

From the social standpoint, three problems arise from illicit sexual relations, namely, the problems of prostitution, venereal disease, and illegitimacy.

Prostitution and venereal disease are closely connected for any individual indulging in irregular relations of any sort is likely, sooner or later, to come in contact with an infected person. Most prostitutes are so infected. If the individuals having intercourse with them later marry healthy persons, they may, unless the disease has been checked, carry the infection into their homes and transmit it to their mates and children. It is for this reason that venereal infection is more than an individual problem; it is a danger to all society.

These diseases are so prevalent and their effects so severe that their nature should be understood by everyone. There are two principal types of infection, syphilis and gonorrhea. They are alike in that both are highly infectious germ diseases, almost always transmitted through sexual contact. Syphilis may also be acquired by kissing an infected person and, very rarely, through the use of public drinking cups.

Gonorrhea begins as an inflammation of the genital passages of either male or female but may, in time, spread to other parts of the body. The first indication of the disease is a discharge of pus from the infected passages, accompanied frequently by pain in urination. If unchecked, it is apt to result in sterility, especially in women. As the disease is very

infectious, anyone having it is dangerous to the community until cured. The germs, if carried to the eyes, may cause blindness and many children are thus blinded at birth through maternal infection.

Syphilis, although not so common as gonorrhea, is even more serious in its effects. The first indication of the disease, a small sore at the point of infection, may be so slight as to go unnoticed. The germs will, if unchecked, become distributed throughout the body, causing skin eruptions and often sore throat and mouth. If the disease is not cured in this second stage, all signs of its presence may disappear for weeks, months, or even years, and the patient may believe himself cured. Very serious developments, however, may appear at any time; they include insanity, paralysis, blindness, and changes in the tissues of the heart and arteries. The death rate of neglected or inadequately treated syphilitic cases is very high. Moreover, the disease may be transmitted to the children of infected parents, resulting frequently in death either before or just after birth.

Since both diseases are curable if treated promptly and disastrous if allowed to go unchecked, every individual owes to others as well as to himself every possible precaution, both in prevention and in early and thorough treatment if he is so unfortunate as to become infected. The simplest and most effective measure, of course, is to avoid all opportunity of acquiring them; but, if you have any reason to believe you are infected, do not hesitate to go to the best physician you know. Only when society as a whole recognizes that it has a duty in checking the venereal plague will these diseases be wiped out.

Healthy young people who indulge in sex relations are usually capable of bearing children, and, as a result, another great social problem, that of the illegitimate child, arises. Such a child may be physically perfect; but, born into a

society which does not recognize its right to exist, it is most difficult for it to grow up happily. No one has a right to sentence another to such suffering. The unmarried parents, too, must bear the penalty of social disgrace. There is much that is unfair today in the attitude which society takes toward both mother and child; but, if we are facing facts as they are, we cannot deny that illegitimate parenthood carries a heavy responsibility.

There are some young people who hope to "get by" through using methods intended to prevent fertilization but they are running a grave risk. Even when birth control is accepted as thoroughly ethical and when reliable information is available, there is no assurance that methods of birth control practiced according to the most scientific methods now available will always be successful.

The condemnation by society of sex relations outside marriage may not seem an important objection to some people and it is true that there are individuals so independent that the opinion of others does not count. If you think you belong to this class, test yourself in some way. Try wearing clothes conspicuously different from the accepted styles, or using table manners and speech not accepted by your crowd. If their reactions do not disturb you, you may be sufficiently strong-minded to stand out against the sex standards of the larger world. Most people, however, will find that they only make themselves very unhappy in this way.

The final argument against irregular indulgence, from the social standpoint, is its effect on the home. In spite of all the criticisms made of it, the home is still the source and center of much that is best in our civilization. Most social and unselfish motives find their origin there. And, having as yet found no substitute for it, society insists that the home be preserved. A socially valuable and successful home cannot

exist without mutual love and this, in turn, depends on mutual trust and a confidence impossible where unfaithfulness exists. Unless young people bring to marriage the finest possible personalities and high ideals to which they have tried to live up in the years preceding marriage, they are not capable of establishing the sort of home which society needs nor the sort that will bring them, personally, the highest happiness.

You must remember when contemplating marriage that there is a great deal to learn about the physiology of intercourse and the sex psychology of yourself and your mate. You will need to understand something about eugenics—of the qualities in a mate which will give potential children the best possible inheritance. You will also need information about the attitudes of different groups in society towards the problem of birth control. You will want to read the books prepared to help you with these and other problems of marriage, so that your marriage, entered into with intelligence and understanding, will have a high probability of success.

Summing up the argument so far, we may say that, to the best of our present knowledge, sexual relations outside marriage neither benefit nor harm an individual physically, save as they expose him to the probability of contracting venereal disease; psychologically, they are detrimental on account of the deceit and concealment ordinarily required and the resulting loss of self-respect. From the standpoint of society as a whole, they are condemned because they lead to prostitution, spread disease, bring illegitimate children into the world, and undermine the security of the home.

If these are the facts, a decision based on them must clearly be in favor of a clean, self-controlled life. It is possible, however, to admit all this intellectually and still find oneself wanting emotionally the sex satisfaction which the

intelligence condemns. Unfortunately, our minds and our desires are not always easily reconciled and we must decide which is to be master.

When the immediate desire seems powerful, stop for a moment and consider. What are some of the *other* things you want in life? Most young people would include friendship, respect, material success, social usefulness, a happy marriage, all that we may call long-term satisfactions. Where the immediate conflicts with the long-term desire, which matters more to you? An honest reply to this question will reveal very clearly the sort of person you are and the sort of future lying before you.

If you are possessed of sufficient will power to choose the enduring rather than the immediate satisfaction, there are certain things that may make self-control less difficult:

1. Athletics and active exercise of all sorts. While authorities differ as to whether exercise provides a direct substitute for sex expression, we all know that it keeps both mind and body occupied and leads to prompt, sound sleep.

2. Hard brain work. This, while less attractive than sports to many people, actually does reduce sex desire by its consumption of nervous energy. If you are really interested in any hobby or are striving to excel in any intellectual field, you will find this a useful means toward control.

3. Emotional expression of any socially desirable type. Music, for instance, or dramatics, may provide a valuable outlet.

4. Physical cleanliness. Local irritation arises when the sex organs are not kept perfectly clean and may lead to sex desires.

5. Avoidance of undesirable sex stimuli. Among these may be included "petting parties," careless dancing, and

most of the cheaper type of moving pictures and novels. Petting directly stimulates sex desire and is the normal preliminary to sex intercourse. It is far easier to start than to stop when powerful instincts are deliberately awakened.

Conclusion

In these pages we have considered some of the problems incident to growing up in the modern world. The facts regarding them have been set down frankly, for you should know just what is involved. By doing always the easiest thing and following the impulse of the moment, you may present a weakened and warped personality to the world; or you may begin today to be the person you imagine as yourself five or ten years from now—a man or a woman, well balanced, self-controlled, equal to all the demands of life. The choice will mean much to yourself, much also to society.

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The Massachusetts Society for Social Hygiene

is a voluntary organization of citizens incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth to carry out an educational, medical, legislative and protective program to meet the problems arising from sex in life.

The Society carries on its work along the following lines:

1. Public education through lecture service. These lectures are given on request to parents, teachers, social workers, nurses, camp counselors, men's and women's clubs, and young men and young women in adolescent, pre-marriage and married groups.

2. Co-operation with state and local health departments and other health organizations in the prevention and control of syphilis and gonorrhea.

3. Studies to ascertain needed improvements in the care of patients having syphilis and gonorrhea.

4. Development of a sustained and informed public opinion to meet the multiple social, educational and public health problems in the social hygiene field.

The Society is supported by memberships and contributions.

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